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Diana T Fritz 05/24/2007 04:36:53 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

April 07, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 1656 - UNKNOWN)
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR
Captions: None
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: WAR IN IRAQ CIVILIAN CASUALTIES
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 01656

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: PAO
INFO: ECON POL DCM AMB
Laser1:
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: PAO:KVANDEVATE
DRAFTED: PAO:AHOSHAN
CLEARED: PAO:TPONCE

VZCZCADI099
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZN RUEHLO RUEHFR
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC
DE RUEHAD #1656/01 0971045
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 071045Z APR 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9283
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0631
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0689
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 001656

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA;
INR/NESA; INR/B; IIP/G/NEA-SA
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OIIP KMDR TC
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: WAR IN IRAQ CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

¶1. SUMMARY: THE WAR IN IRAQ, IRAQI CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, AND
U.S. PLANS FOR POST-WAR IRAQ DOMINATED COVERAGE IN UAE MEDIA.
UAE COLUMNIST AYSHA SULTAN WROTE IN "AL BAYAN" THAT ONLY THE U.S.

AND NONE OF ITS ALLIES WILL CONTROL POST-WAR IRAQ. ANOTHER UAE COLUMNIST, DR. SHAMLAN AL EISSA POINTED OUT THAT THE ARAB AND GULF COUNTRIES HAVE THE SAME DOUBLE STANDARDS OF WHICH THEY ACCUSE THE U.S. END SUMMARY.

¶2. ASSERTING THAT ISRAEL WILL BENEFIT FROM THE WAR IN IRAQ, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 4/7:

".... THE GOAL OF ATTACKING IRAQ IS TO ENSURE THE OIL (IS PROTECTED) AND TO ELIMINATE ANY POTENTIAL THREATS AGAINST ISRAEL. THIS GOAL IS FAR FROM THE FALSE AMERICAN STATEMENTS ABOUT 'FREEDOM' AND 'DEMOCRACY' ... THE ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO IMPOSE A SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAELI CONDITIONS ON THE PALESTINIANS, SYRIA, AND LEBANON. ANYONE WHO DOES NOT ACCEPT THIS WILL FACE THE MACHINES OF DESTRUCTION AND KILLING ALREADY EXISTING IN THE REGION AND READY TO DISCIPLINE THOSE WHO DO NOT LEARN FROM THE 'IRAQI LESSON' ..."

¶3. COMMENTING ON BOTH SHEIKH ZAYED'S AND PRESIDENT BUSH'S INITIATIVES FOR IRAQ, UAE COLUMNIST ABDULLA RASHEED WROTE IN ABU DHABI-BASED SEMI-GOVERNMENT "AL ITTIHAD" ON 4/7:

".... SHEIKH ZAYED'S INITIATIVE CAME FROM A MAN DEVOTED TO HIS NATION AND THE ARAB WORLD, AND WHICH WAS FOR THE SAKE AND BENEFIT OF ARABS. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT BUSH'S INITIATIVE LOOKS FIRST AND FOREMOST AT U.S INTERESTS, WHICH IS NATURAL, AND THEN SHIFTS TO OTHERS' INTERESTS. DESPITE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE TWO INITIATIVES, SADDAM INSISTED ON CHOOSING PRESIDENT BUSH'S INITIATIVE TO SOLVE THIS CRISIS. SO, PLEASE DON'T BLAME US BUT BLAME YOURSELVES ..."

¶4. COMMENTING ON THE EXPECTED NEW AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IN IRAQ, UAE COLUMNIST AYSHA SULTAN WROTE IN DUBAI-BASED BUSINESS-ORIENTED "AL BAYAN" ON 4/7:

".... A RETIRED U.S. GENERAL (J.GARNER) WILL BE THE CIVIL RULER, TOMMY FRANKS WILL BE THE MILITARY RULER, AND THERE WILL BE 13 U.S. MINISTERS ASSISTED BY 4 CONSULTANTS FROM THE IRAQI OPPOSITION! ALLIES DON'T MATTER WHEN IT'S TIME TO EAT THE CAKE! THIS IS THE SECRET BEHIND THE BRITISH INSISTENCE THAT IRAQIS SHOULD CONTROL IRAQ AFTER THE WAR ... THE BAD TIMES ARE NOT HERE YET, WHAT WE ARE FACING NOW IS STILL AN INTRODUCTION TO A GREEK COMEDY. IN THE COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS THE NEXT STEP OF THE AMERICAN RIGHT WING WILL BE REVEALED, AND EVERYONE KNOWS THE NEXT U.S. STEP. IN THE COMING DAYS, THE U.S. WILL FLOOD THE WORLD WITH IRAQI OIL IN ORDER TO REGAIN THE COSTS OF WAR AND TO RE-BUILD IRAQ. THE OIL PRODUCTION WILL EXCEED 5 OR EVEN 7 MILLION BARRELS A DAY, AND PRICES WILL DECREASE AND MIGHT REACH 10 DOLLARS PER BARREL! WE SHOULD RECALL THE REMARKS MADE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT GODFATHER, THE JEWISH HENRY KESSINGER IN 1973 FOLLOWING THE OIL CRISIS: 'WE WILL MAKE ARABS DRINK THEIR OIL JUST LIKE WATER!'"

¶5. NOTING THE ARAB AND GULF COUNTRIES' DOUBLE STANDARDS IN THEIR MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE WAR AGAINST IRAQ, COLUMNIST DR. SHAMLAN AL EISSA WROTE IN "AL ITTIHAD" ON 4/6:

".... THE DILEMMA FACING THE ARAB WORLD AND GULF COUNTRIES IS THAT THEY HAVE THE SAME FAULTS OF WHICH THEY ACCUSE THE U.S. THESE FAULTS ARE CLEARLY SHOWN IN THEIR DOUBLE STANDARDS. EXAMPLES OF THAT ARE MANY, WE MENTION HERE THE GULF MEDIA HOSTILE TOWARDS THE U.S AND SUPPORTIVE OF IRAQ ..."

¶6. COMMENTING ON U.S. EXCUSES FOR THE WAR IN IRAQ, "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 4/6:

".... THE U.S. PRESIDENT CLAIMS THAT ATTACKING IRAQ IS TO DEFEND U.S. SECURITY AND WORLD PEACE. THE FACT IS THAT THE RASH POLICIES OF HIS ADMINISTRATION ARE WHAT BRINGS OUT HATRED TOWARDS THE U.S., AND THIS POLICY IS WHAT THREATENS WORLD SECURITY AND PEACE..."

¶7. COMMENTING ON FORMER CIA DIRECTOR JAMES WOOLSEY'S WARNINGS TO SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT FOR THE NEXT PHASE, COLUMNIST HOSSAM KANAFANI WROTE IN "AL KHALEEJ" ON 4/6:

".... PERHAPS THE STATEMENT OF THE FORMER CIA DIRECTOR, JAMES WOOLSEY, TWO DAYS AGO, INDICATES U.S. INTENTIONS FOR THE REGION,

SINCE WELSEY IS NOMINATED TO BECOME MINISTER OF INFORMATION IN THE POST-SADDAM AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ..."

¶ 18. UNDER THE HEADLINE "WHAT'S COMING IS WORSE," UAE COLUMNIST IBN AL DEIRA WROTE IN "AL KHALEEJ" ON 4/6:

".... THE DEMOCRACY OF GENERAL GARNER THAT WILL BE COMING ON TANKS AND OVER THE DEAD BODIES OF IRAQIS IS NOT THE DEMOCRACY THAT IRAQIS HAVE BEEN DREAMING OF. IRAQ HAS BEEN BAD DURING SADDAM'S REGIME BUT IT WILL BE WORSE DURING GARNERS ..."

¶ 19. UNDER THE HEADLINE "TROOPS HUMILIATING PROUD IRAQIS," MOHAMED ALMEZEL, BAHRAIN BUREAU CHIEF FOR EXPATRIATE-ORIENTED ENGLISH DAILY "GULF NEWS" WROTE AN ARTICLE ON 4/6 CRITICAL OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH TROOPS TREATMENT OF IRAQIS AT MILITARY CHECKPOINTS. AL-MEZEL NOTED IRAQ'S HISTORY AS A 'CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION' AND URGED COALITION FORCES TO RESPECT THE DIGNITY AND CULTURE OF IRAQ. AL-MEZEL LINKED AMERICAN ACTIONS IN IRAQ TO ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION OF THE PALESTINIANS, REFERRING TO AN AMERICAN SOLDIER ARRESTING AN IRAQI AND TYING HIS HANDS WITH A PLASTIC CORD AS "THE SAME TYPE USED BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS IN THE PALESTINIAN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES."

WAHBA